

CROMER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE FIFTY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST,
1937.

A. L. Chambers & Son, West Street, Cromer.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1937.

CROMER,
30th May, 1938.

GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report for 1937 is on the lines indicated by Circular 1650 of the Ministry of Health.

The Sunshine for the year was 1389.9 hours as compared with 1545.1 hours in 1936; the Rainfall 27.80 inches as compared with 25.22 inches in 1936.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) 1,148.

Estimate of Resident population, mid-1937, 4,013.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937), 1,301.

Rateable Value, £37,768.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £145.

During the Summer months the chief occupation of the inhabitants is attending to wants of visitors, and a small fishing industry during the rest of the year.

I have no statistics of unemployment, but there was a noticeable decrease during the year.

			Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births {	Legitimate	45	24	21
	Illegitimate	2	0	2
				11.71
			Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.	
Still Births (Legitimate)	3	1	2	60.0
			Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
Deaths ...	60	30	30	14.95
Deaths from puerperal causes	0			
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :				
			Per 1,000 live births.	
All Infants ...	2	2	0	42.55
			Per 1,000 legitimate live births.	
Legitimate Infants	0			44.44

Deaths from Cancer (all ages),
10 3 7

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 0.

There has been no excessive or unusual mortality during the year which has received or required comment.

There were no causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year ; nor any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have a prejudicial effect on health ; nor any evidence, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

The Resident Population, as estimated by the Registrar-General for mid-year, 1937, is 4,013, as compared with 4,040 for 1936.

The Birth Rate is 11.71, as compared with 14.10 in 1936 ; the Birth Rate for England and Wales 14.9.

The Still Birth Rate was 60.0 as compared with England and Wales 0.60.

The Death Rate is 14.95 as compared with 12.62 for 1936 ; the Death Rate for England and Wales being 12.4.

The Infantile Mortality is 42.55 as compared with 35.08 in 1936 ; the Infantile Mortality of England and Wales being 58.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1937.

			M.	F.
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	1	-
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	1	-
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, &c.	...	2	-
32.	Senility	...	-	1
34.	Other Violence	...	2	-
35.	Other defined Diseases	...	5	3
36.	Ill defined or not known	...	-	1
14.	Diabetes	...	-	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	2	2
16.	Heart Disease	...	8	11
18.	Other circulatory Diseases	...	1	-
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	2	2
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	3	1
11.	Syphilis	...	-	1
13.	Cancer	...	3	7
			30	30

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i.) Medical Officer of Health (part time), R. C. M. Colvin-Smith,
M.B., B.C., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector (who is also Surveyor) Mr. G. Eric Mitchell, M. INST., M. & CY. E., A.R.I.B.A., M.R. SAN. I.

- (ii.) (a) Laboratory facilities. No change.
- (b) Ambulance facilities. Adequate.
- (c) Nursing in the Home. No change.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics. No change.
- (e) Hospitals—Public: Isolation Hospital, Roughton.

All cases have been sent to the Joint Erpingham, North Walsham, and Sheringham Isolation Hospital at Roughton, pending amalgamation.

Voluntary: Cromer and District Hospital (38 beds).

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i.) Water has been very satisfactory both as regards (a) quality, (b) supply.

Extensions. 1,525 lin. yards of 4 inch C.I. water mains have been extended along Roughton Road and 430 lin. yards of 4 inch C.I. water mains have been laid at the Warren Estate.

No analysis was made during the year, but in future one bacteriological and chemical examination will be made per annum.

- (ii.) Drainage and Sewerage.

A separate system of surface water drainage in the West end area of Cromer was completed during the year.

Gully connections were disconnected from the existing combined sewers and connected to the new sewer throughout its length and many additional road gullies provided where necessary.

The Scheme allows for adequate extension and has proved satisfactory after severe testing.

2. Rivers and Streams. None.

3. (i.) Closet Accommodation. No change.

- (ii.) Public Cleansing.

Scavenging and disposal by destruction is carried out by direct labour. The present arrangements are satisfactory and no important changes have been made.

- (iii.) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Tabular Statement furnished by the Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

House to house Inspections	172
Special Inspections	12
Inspections of Nuisances discovered	19

Re-inspections to ascertain progress of Sanitary and	
Informal Orders	32
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases ...	20
Visits to Isolation Hospital	0
Inspections under Factory and Workshop Act ...	31
Re-Inspections	9
Inspections of Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds ...	8
Inspections of Tenements	20
	<hr/>
	323

Premises disinfected	2
Room disinfected	12
Premises to which Smoke Test applied ...	0
Committee Meetings attended	12
Preliminary Notices served	9
Legal Notices served	0
Legal Proceedings taken	0
Defects found by House to House Inspection ...	5
Defects found by other Inspection	0
Defects found by other Workshops Inspections ...	0
Defects found by other Tenement Inspections ...	3
Complaints received at Office	48

(iv.) Shops.

The usual inspections have been made relative to adequate ventilation, temperature and Sanitary arrangements of shops. No statutory action required.

(v.) Smoke Abatement.

Complaints concerning the Steam Laundry chimney have received attention resulting in a smoke reducing apparatus being installed.

(vi.) Swimming Baths and Pools. None in area.

(vii.) Eradication of bed bugs. No action required.

4. Schools.

The Sanitary condition and Water Supply of the Schools, satisfactory.

The whole School was closed by the S.M.O. from 29/1/37 to 5/2/37 for heavy incidence of Influenza.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

- (1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 102
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 130
- (2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 10

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	30
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	0
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—	
Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	0
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0
4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—	
(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year	1

(ii.) Number of families therein	2
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	5
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	8
(d) Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding			0
(e) Any other particulars with respect of overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	0

SECTION E.—INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) Milk Supply. Usual inspection of Farms and Dairies. No samples taken.
- (b) Meat and other Foods. Usual inspection of Shops, &c. No Slaughter Houses in Cromer Area.
- (c) Adulteration, &c. No action required.
- (d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. No Laboratories.
- (e) Nutrition. No action taken.
- f) Shell-fish (Molluscan). No action taken. No Shell-fish beds.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

General. Diseases notified :—

4 cases of Scarlet Fever, all admitted into the Erpingham, North Walsham and Sheringham Joint Isolation Hospital pending amalgamation.

3 cases of Diphtheria also admitted into the same Hospital.

1 case of Paratyphoid occurring in a child age $3\frac{1}{2}$ removed to the Cromer and District Hospital, the Erpingham Hospital not being able to admit her. No cause could be found.

1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia, 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 1 Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The case rates of the following diseases, as compared with England and Wales, are as under :—

				Per 1,000 resident population.	
				Cromer.	England & Wales.
Scarlet Fever	0.99	2.33	
Diphtheria	0.74	1.49	
Paratyphoid	0.24	0.05	

	1,000	Total Births (Live and Still).
Puerperal Pyrexia	20.0	13.93

During the year I have received 40 copies of Reports on Swabbing for Diphtheria Bacilli and 2 examinations of Sputum from the Norfolk County Laboratory.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1937 :—
(Other than Tuberculosis).

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	4	4	0
Diphtheria	3	3	0
Paratyphoid	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0

Age Groups :—

Scarlet Fever, 1—2 one, 5—10 two, 35—45 one.

Diphtheria, 15—20 one, 35—45 one, 45—65 one.

Paratyphoid, 3—4 one.

Puerperal Pyrexia, 20—35 one.

4. (a) Prevention of Blindness. No case notified.

(b) Tuberculosis. No action required.

5. TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age periods.	New cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
25—35	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
35—45	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—55	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	2	2	1	0	3	1	0	0

One only of the fatal cases notified.

ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORK- SHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	5	0	0
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	29	0	0
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	0	0	0
Total ...	34	0	0

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prose- cutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H. M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	0	0	0	0
Want of ventilation ...	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	0	0
Other nuisances ...	2	2	0	0
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient	0	0	0	0
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	0	0
Not separate for sexes ...	0	0	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse ...	0	0	0	0
Other offences ...	0	0	0	0
Total ...	4	4	0	0

There have been no instances of outwork in unwholesome premises.

In conclusion, I have to thank Mr. G. Eric Mitchell for his kind help in compiling this Report.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. M. COLVIN-SMITH,

M.B , B.C., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health,
Medical Officer of Health.

CROMER WEATHER REPORT.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The mean of 29.909 inches was 0.008 above that of 1936.

The highest monthly mean was 30.089 for November and the lowest was 29.546 for February.

SHADE TEMPERATURE.

The warmest month was August, with a mean of 61.9, this being 0.4 higher than August, 1936. March was the coldest month, with a mean of 39.4, this being 21 degrees higher than February, 1936, with a mean of 37.3.

The highest Temperature reached was 84 degrees on August 6th, 3.0 degrees higher than the warmest day on June 21st, 1936, with 81 degrees. The lowest reading of the Maximum Thermometer was 31 degrees on January 29th.

The lowest reading of the Minimum Thermometer was 25 degrees on January 30th. The lowest reading of the Grass Minimum was 23 degrees on March 23rd.

SUNSHINE.

The total Sunshine of 1,389.9 hours was 155.2 hours less than in 1936. The sunniest month was June, with a total of 220.2 hours, giving a daily mean of 7.34 hours.

RAINFALL.

Rain was registered 186 days, this being 2 days less than in 1936.

The total Rainfall for the year was 27.80 inches, this being 2.48 inches more than in 1936.

The most recorded on one day was 1.14 inches on Sept. 19th.

A. COWLES,
Observer.

Cromer Weather Report for 1937.

1937.	Barometer. Mean. 9 a.m.	Dry Bulb. Mean. 9 a.m.	Wet Bulb. Mean. 9 a.m.	RAINFALL.				SHADE TEMPERATURE.			Sunshine. Hours.
				Most in a Day.		Total Fall.	No. of Days. 0.01 inches or more.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.	
				Amount. Inches.	Date.						
January ...	Inches. 29.800	Degrees. 40.7	Degrees. 39.8	0.79	24th	Inches. 3.12	20	Degrees. 45.5	Degrees. 35.6	Degrees. 40.6	Total. 54.4
February...	29.546	41.3	40.1	0.28	7th	2.14	18	46.3	36.6	41.5	78.6
March ...	29.794	39.6	37.8	0.54	11th	2.65	22	44.8	38.9	39.4	115.5
April ...	29.829	45.6	44.6	0.52	20th	2.65	17	50.2	41.7	46.0	64.1
May ...	30.003	53.5	50.8	1.06	20th	1.97	9	59.6	46.9	53.2	185.9
June ...	30.020	59.2	55.1	0.49	10th	1.39	10	64.7	50.9	57.8	220.2
July ...	29.844	61.6	58.1	0.77	19th	2.72	12	67.7	55.0	61.4	145.4
August ...	30.071	62.1	59.5	0.71	14th	0.96	5	68.1	55.6	61.9	172.4
September	29.947	57.8	54.5	1.14	19th	2.19	17	65.1	51.0	58.1	161.0
October ...	30.036	54.2	52.0	0.52	22nd	1.58	14	58.3	48.4	53.4	104.0
November	30.089	45.2	43.8	0.44	19th	2.69	17	48.3	40.7	44.5	49.1
December	29.935	39.2	38.7	0.66	5th	3.74	25	43.4	34.9	39.2	39.3
Totals ...	29.909	50.0	47.9	27.80	186	55.2	44.3	49.7	1389.9
Means	2.32	15.5
Year 1936	Totals	25.22	188	1545.1
Means	29.901	49.8	47.5	2.10	15.7	54.4	43.9	49.2	...

